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July 16, 1999

For Immediate Release:

EIU CELEBRATION POSTPONED; TO RETURN TO SPRING ROOTS

CHARLESTON -- Eastern Illinois University announces that its annual Celebration: A Festival of the Arts is being rescheduled from its August date to the Spring of 2000.

Festival organizers said the move was made, in part, due to the numerous competing fairs and festivals that are planned throughout the area during the late summer and early fall.

"Celebration has a history of presenting some of the Midwest's premiere artists, and this year there were a number of competing festivals in August," said Dan Crews, festival chair. In reviewing the situation, the festival advisory committee reaffirmed its commitment to providing a high quality festival to the residents of east central Illinois and recommended rescheduling the festival for April 2000 rather than proceed with an August event.

"Celebration will continue its tradition of excellence that's been established over the years," Crews added. "A number of people, including participating artists, have expressed their excitement for Celebration's return to its original spring date and look forward to being part of the area's first arts festival in the new millennium."